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### TELECOPY

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DATE: March 22, 2004

TO: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office/Art Unit 1638  
Attn: Examiner David H. Kruse

FROM: Eric J. Kron

Re: Appl. No.: 09/954,950  
Applicant(s): Mahajan et al.  
Filed: September 18, 2001  
Art Unit: 1638  
Title: RICE MLH1 ORTHOLOG AND USES THEREOF

Confirmation No.: 8514

Enclosed is an Amendment After Final (16 pages) w/Appendices 1-5.

NO. OF PAGES:  
(Including cover page)

~~52~~ 30

OPERATOR: 20154

Part I of II

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|                |               |               |              |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| USER CODE:     | KRONE         | FAX NUMBER:   | 703-872-0306 |
| CLIENT/MATTER: | 035718/238971 |               |              |
| REQUESTED BY:  | Nora Martinez | VOICE NUMBER: | 571-272-0799 |

RTA01/2152178v1

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PATENT

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 - EXPEDITED  
PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1638

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICE

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Docket No.: 035718/238971(5718-142)  
Customer No.: 00826

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated January 21, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

An Appendix including Tabs 1-5, as described below, is attached following page 16 of this paper.

RTA01/2149369v1